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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,112	02/26/2002	Seijun Tanikawa	826.1797	3525
21171	7590	03/28/2005	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP			TRAN, PHILIP B	
SUITE 700				
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005			2155	

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/082,112	TANIKAWA ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Philip B Tran	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2005.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/16/05.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Stoltz et al (Hereafter, Stoltz), European Patent Application No. EP-1043648 A2.

Regarding claim 1, Stoltz teaches an Internet appliance user management system (= service server with session manager 206 and authentication manager 204) [see Fig. 2] which is connected to an IA terminal (= network terminal 202) via a network, comprising:

an IA terminal user storing unit storing IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying the IA terminal, service information including the kind of

service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service (= authentication database 218 contains information such as userID, PIN, session ID) [see Fig. 2 and Paragraphs [0090-0091];

a transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system, transmitting and receiving the user registration information to and from the IA terminal, and requests the IA terminal to input the user registration information (= input and output of service server with session manager 206 and authentication manager 204) [see Fig. 2];

a user registration information collation unit collating the user registration information received by the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system with the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit (= authentication manager 204 controls access to services/sessions and may remove/revoke or augment such access by working in connection with session manager 206 that manages services/sessions) [see Fig. 2 and Paragraphs [0056-0059 and 0089-0093]]; and

an automatic registration unit obtaining the user registration information which has not been collated by the user registration information collation unit from the IA terminal by means of the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system and registering said information in the IA terminal user storing unit (= each authentication module 240 is working in connection with authentication manager 204 for configuring to authenticate a user based on a different

authentication mechanism such as using a smart card, using a login and password, or using biometric data, etc) [see Abstract and Fig. 2 and Paragraphs [0089-0091]].

Regarding claim 2, Stoltz further teaches the IA terminal user management system according to claim 1, wherein the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system receives user registration information including the IA terminal identifier from the IA terminal, the user registration information collation unit collates the received user registration information with the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit, the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system transmits the collated result to the IA terminal, the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system receives additional user registration information which is not included in the received user registration information from the IA terminal, and the automatic registration unit registers the received additional user registration information in the IA terminal user storing unit [see Abstract and Fig. 2 and Pages 9 &12].

Regarding claims 3-4, Stoltz further teaches the IA terminal user management system, wherein the IA terminal user storing unit comprises a machine table which stores the IA terminal identifier in association with a user identifier for identifying the user, a subscriber table which stores the user identifier in association with a service provider identifier for identifying the service provider who provides the service, and an affinity table which stores the service provider identifier in association with the

registration procedure for registering the user determined by the service provider (= format of records that include sessionID, serviceID, serviceHost, servicePort, seessionLink, IPAddress, userID,PIN, code, identifier, etc) [see Pages 9-10 & 12-13].

Regarding claims 5-8, Stoltz further teaches the IA terminal user management system, wherein the automatic registration unit erases the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit (= dynamic session record indicates a user is attached to/detached from the system and when a user is removed from the system then the user's associated sessions are removed from the system and session database) [see Abstract and Fig. 2 and Paragraphs [0058-0065]].

Regarding claim 9, Stoltz teaches the IA terminal which performs information communication via a network, comprising:

a transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal, transmitting and receiving IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying the IA terminal, service information including the kind of service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service to and from the IA terminal user management system which manages the IA terminal via the network (= input and output of service server with session manager 206 and authentication manager 204 indicate who receives the services and who provides the services) [see Fig. 2 and Pages 9 & 12]; and

an input unit inputting insufficient user registration information based on the request of the IA terminal user management system whereas the transmission and receiving unit on the IA terminal transmits the user registration information inputted by the input unit to the IA terminal user management system (= authentication manager 204/authentication modules 240 are configured for controlling access to services/sessions and may remove/revoke or augment such access by working in connection with session manager 206 that manages services/sessions) [see Fig. 2 and Paragraphs [0056-0059 and 0089-0093]].

Regarding claim 10, Stoltz further teaches the IA terminal according to claim 9, wherein the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal transmits user registration information including the IA terminal identifier to the IA terminal user management system, the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal receives the result of having collated the transmitted user registration information and the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit with which the IA terminal user management system is provided, the input unit inputs additional user registration information which is not included in the received user registration information, and the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal transmits the inputted additional user registration information to the IA terminal user management system [see Fig. 2 and Paragraphs [0056-0059 and 0089-0093]].

Claim 11 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claim 12 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 2.

Claim 13 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 9.

Claim 14 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 10.

Claim 15 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 1.

Claim 16 is rejected under the same rationale set forth above to claim 9.

Other References Cited

3. The following references cited by the examiner but not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- A) Chang et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,157,953.
- B) Oneda, U.S. Pat. No. 5,965,860.
- C) Yokono et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,529,946.
- D) Saeki, U.S. Pat. Application Pub. No. US 2001/0037310 A1.
- E) Okayasu et al, U.S. Pat. Application Pub. No. US 2001/0056468 A1.
- F) Shigematsu et al, U. S. Pat. Application Pub. No. US 2002/0095588 A1.

4. A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. FAILURE TO RESPOND WITHIN THE PERIOD FOR RESPONSE WILL CAUSE THE APPLICATION TO BECOME ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). EXTENSIONS OF TIME MAY BE OBTAINED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF 37 CAR 1.136(A).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3991. The Group fax phone number is (703) 872-9306.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam, can be reached on (571) 272-3978.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Philip Tran
Philip B. Tran
Art Unit 2155
March 16, 2005